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The Columbian Mirror

AND
ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.

FEDERAL LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14.

The House having formed itself into a committee of the whole on the answer to the President's speech, Mr. Muhlenberg in the chair, the following reported draft of the answer was read:

SIR,

THE House of Representatives have attended to your communication respecting the state of our country, with all the sensibility that the contemplation of the subject, and a sense of duty can inspire.

We are gratified by the information, that measures calculated to ensure a continuance of the friendship of the Indians, and to maintain the tranquility of the interior frontier, have been adopted; and we indulge the hope that these, by impressing the Indian tribes with more correct conceptions of the justice, as well as power of the United States, will be attended with success.

While we notice with satisfaction, the steps that have been taken in pursuance of the late treaties with several foreign nations, the liberation of our citizens, who were prisoners at Algiers, is a subject of peculiar felicitation.

We shall cheerly co-operate in any further measures that shall appear, on consideration, to be requisite.

We have ever concurred with you in the most sincere and uniform disposition to preserve our mutual relations inviolate, and it is of course, with anxiety and deep regret we hear that an interruption of our harmony with the French Republic has occurred: for we feel with you and with our constituents the cordial and unabated wish to maintain a perfectly friendly understanding with that nation. Your endeavors to fulfil that wish, [and by all honorable means to preserve peace, and to restore that harmony and affection which have heretofore so happily subsisted between the French Republic and the United States] cannot fail therefore, to interest our attention. And while we participate in the full reliance you have expressed on the patriotism, self respect and fortitude of our countrymen, we cherish the pleasing hope, that a mutual spirit of justice and moderation on the part of the Republic will ensure the success of your perseverance.

The various subjects of your communication will, respectively, meet with the attention that is due to their importance.

When we advert to the internal situation of the United States, we deem it equally natural and becoming to compare the tranquil prosperity of the citizens with the period immediately antecedent to the operation of the government, and to contrast it with the calamities in which the state of war still involves several of the European nations, as the reflections deduced from both tend to justify as well as to excite, a warmer admiration of our free constitution, as to exalt our minds to a more fervent and grateful sense of piety towards Almighty God, for the beneficence of his providence, by which its administration has been hitherto so remarkably distinguished.

And while we entertain a grateful conviction that your wise, firm and patriotic administration has been finally conducive to the success of the present form of government, we cannot forbear to express the deep sensations of regret with which we contemplate your intended retirement from office.

As no other suitable occasion may occur, we cannot suffer the present to pass without attempting to disclose some of the emotions which it cannot fail to awaken.

The gratitude and admiration of your country are still drawn to the recollection of those resplendent virtues and talents which were so eminently instrumental to the achievement of the revolution, and of which that glorious event will ever be the memorial. Your obedience to the voice of duty and your country, when you quitted reluctantly, a second time, the retreat you had chosen, and first accepted the presidency, afforded a new proof of the devotedness of your zeal in its services and an earnest of the patriotism and success which have characterized your administration. As the grateful confidence of the citizens in the virtues of their chief magistrate, has essentially contributed to that success, we persuade ourselves that the millions whom we represent, participate with us in the anxious solicitude of the present occasion.

Yet we cannot be unmindful that your moderation and magnanimity, twice displayed by retiring from your exalted station, afford examples no less rare and instructive to mankind, than valuable to a republic.

Although we are sensible that the event, of itself, completes the lustre of a character already conspicuously unrivalled by the coincidence of virtue, talents, success, and public estimation; yet we conceive we owe it to you, Sir, and still more emphatically to ourselves and to our nation; (of the language of whose hearts we presume to think ourselves at this moment the faithful interpreters) to express the sentiments with which it is contemplated.

The spectacle of a whole nation, the freest and most enlightened in the world, offering by its representatives the tribute of unfeigned approbation to its first citizen, however novel and interesting it may be, derives all its lustre, (a lustre which accident or enthusiasm could not bestow, and which adulation would tarnish) from the transcendent merit of which it is the voluntary testimony.

May you long enjoy that liberty which is so dear to you, and to which your name will ever be so dear: may your own virtues and a nation's prayers obtain the happiest sunshine for the decline of your days and the choicest of future blessings. For your country's sake, for the sake of republican liberty, it is our earnest wish that your example may be the guide of your successors, and thus, after being the ornament and safeguard of the present age, become the patrimony of our descendants.

Mr. Venable said he did not understand the expression *interior frontier* in the second paragraph. He wished therefore to strike out the word *interior* and insert *western*. Agreed.

Mr. Giles, after the fourth paragraph had been read, said that this was a very delicate part of the reply to the President's address. He wished the sense of this house to appear unequivocally for peace, with the French republic. He did not think the section as it stood went fully to that object.

A good deal was said about what the President had done, but he wished the feelings of that house to be clearly expressed, since he viewed the prospect of a foreign war as more probable than some gentlemen seemed to do, and should therefore propose an amendment, the principal object of which would be to produce a commitment. He then moved to add the words printed in *italic*. Mr. Giles said, when he reflected upon the calamities of war, but particularly upon a war with France, and upon the peculiar situation in which he stood as representative of a state which would be greatly affected by such an event, he was desirous that an amendment to this effect should prevail. He should say but little on the subject, until he saw whether any objections were made to his motion. If any were made, he should then give his reasons more at large.

Mr. W. Smith said he saw no objections to the amendment, as it was only an amplification of a sentiment already expressed. He believed it was the wish of every gentleman on that floor to preserve peace with the French republic.

Mr. Ames wished to know whether the mover of this amendment had any intention of striking out what followed in the sentence.

Mr. Giles said he had made no motion to strike out. His only wish was to shew clearly their wish for peace, and not to leave to construction, or to the wishes of the President, what should be the sentiment of that house. He had another amendment in view, which he would just mention. It was to add the word *mutual*, before the words "spirit of justice."

The first amendment was agreed to. Mr. Giles then moved the amendment he had just mentioned. For his own part, he was governed by the impulse of his own mind, and wished nothing but the truth to appear in the address. His reliance, he confessed, was as much on the justice and moderation of our government, as upon those qualities in the French government. He therefore moved to add the word *mutual*, and to strike out those of "on the part of the republic." Agreed.

The whole address being now gone through, Mr. Parker moved that the words, "the freest and most enlightened nation in the world" should be struck out. He wished to believe we were, but not that they should be the organ by which such character was given.

Mr. Harper, to supersede this motion, moved to strike out all that part of the answer which followed the words "retirement from office," including the six last paragraphs, and insert another paragraph, which he read, and which was to the same effect with the first moved to be stricken out, only expressed in fewer words.

Mr. Giles did not agree to all the sentiments contained in the latter part of the answer. His objections went to the whole of the answer after the words "due to their importance," including the eight last paragraphs. His intention was not then to offer any thing in their place—he made the motion in order to have the answer re-committed to the committee who reported it.

Mr. W. Smith wished to know whether it was in order, after having gone through several paragraphs without objection, to move to strike out one half of the address. He thought it entirely out of order. A motion for recommitment would be in order, but such a motion to strike out could not be so.

The chairman said it would not be

in order to move to strike out any paragraph which had been amended; but such as had not been amended, he conceived it to be in order to move to strike out.

Mr. W. Smith moved for a division of the question, and that the sense of the committee might be taken upon each paragraph separately. He himself thought they were all proper, and as it was the last opportunity they would have of expressing their feelings to that great man, he thought it should be done in the handsomest manner. He called to the recollection of gentlemen the address presented to him when he entered upon his high office, and also to that presented on his re-election. These were expressed in the warmest terms; and he could not see why they should not use language as glowing at the present important and interesting period, when they saw the same sentiment in the answer which could be objected to. Every gentleman might have a different method of expression. It was impossible to meet the ideas of all in that respect; but, except there were particular sentiments objectionable, he did not see why it should be recommitted.

Mr. Giles said, if gentlemen would have waited until he had explained his objections, they might have saved themselves some trouble. He had objections, he said, to the sentiments, in several particulars, and therefore he objected to them;—at the same time that he had no objection to that sort of compliment which would comport with truth and propriety. If gentlemen would pay a little attention to that moderation and justice which they themselves so strongly recommended, they would see the propriety of the present motion. As to the point of order in question, he was sure his motion was perfectly in order. He should therefore proceed to state his objections to that part of the answer which he moved to be struck out. He disagreed he said, in sentiment with the first paragraph. He did not think it natural or becoming, to avail ourselves of the distresses of Europe for exultation; and though the same thing had been done on a former occasion, he did not approve of it, or see the necessity for doing so. It was a mere voluntary transition from this side of the Atlantic to the other. If we enjoy peace and are happy, said he, it is enough; we need not tell those unfortunate people they are otherwise. This did not relate to any thing of legislative business, and was neither natural nor becoming. With respect to the wisdom and firmness of the President he differed in opinion from the answer; and though he might be singular, yet it being his opinion, he should not be afraid to avow it. He had not that grateful conviction there mentioned, and if he were to come there and express it, he should prove himself an inconsistent character. He should not go into a lengthy dissertation on this point, but if they turned their eyes to our foreign relations; there would be found no reason to exult in the wisdom and firmness of the administration.

He believed, on the contrary, that it was from a want of wisdom and firmness that we were brought into our present critical situation.—If gentlemen had been satisfied with expressing their esteem of the patriotism and virtue of the President; they might have got an unanimous vote; but they could not suppose that gentlemen could so far forget self respect, as to join in the proposed adulation. If they took a view of public and private credit, there was little ground for exultation; less perhaps at the present moment

than any other. He believed the city of Philadelphia alone afforded ample illustration of his assertion.

Mr. Giles said he was one of those citizens who did not regret the president's retiring from office. He hoped he would retire to his country seat, and enjoy all the happiness he could wish, and he believed he would enjoy more there than in his present situation. He believed the government of the United States would go on without him. The people were competent to their own government. He was not therefore afraid of the experiment. What calamities would attend the United States, if one man alone was essential to their government: he believed there were a thousand men in the United States who were capable of filling the presidential chair as well as it has been filled heretofore. And although a clamour had been raised in all parts of the United States, more or less, from apprehensions on the departure of the President from office, yet, not feeling these apprehensions himself, he was perfectly easy on the occasion. He wished the President as much happiness as any man, and hoping he would retire, he could not express any regrets at the event. And it would be extraordinary if gentlemen whose names in the yeas and nays are found in opposition to certain prominent measures of administration, should now come forward and approve those measures. This could not be expected. He for his part, retained the same opinions he had always done with respect to those measures, nor should any influence under heaven prevent him from expressing that opinion—an opinion in which he was confident, ere long, all America would concur. He hoped gentlemen would have saved themselves the trouble of painting the feelings of others on this occasion. With respect to the assertion of our being "the freest and most enlightened nation in the world," and the whole of that paragraph, he objected to in toto. It was sufficient to be free and happy; there was no occasion for themselves to trumpet it forth. Whatever was his opinion of the enlightened state of this country, he would not proclaim it on the house-top. This was no legislative concern; it was a mere flight of the imagination. The writer himself seemed to be aware (by the parenthesis introduced) that it was carrying adulation too far. He believed that it was sufficient that the conduct of the President should be known to the world to receive all the lustre to which it was entitled. The last sentence went on to pray that the gentleman in office may be a guide to his successor. He did not think this was necessary. It was time enough to speak of his successor when he arrived. Be he who he will, he will doubtless do what he thinks right and proper. All these sentiments, said Mr. Giles, being mixed together, I could not separate them and therefore moved to strike out the whole, and hoped they would be struck out, and the answer recommitted.

Mr. Harper said it was in order to move for a division of this question. The whole of that part of the answer which he had moved to be struck out, in order to introduce an amendment in its place, was personal to the President; the preceding clause which the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Giles) included in his motion had respect to the situation of the country, and contained several objects of general concern, and therefore altogether different from the other. Many gentlemen might wish to retain one and to strike out the other. He should with the sense of the committee to be taken, on striking out the first paragraph, "when we advert," &c. He presumed this paragraph would not be struck out. It related to the situation of the country in general; to the grateful sense we entertain of its happy state; and of the influence our constitution has had in producing this prosperous situation. And he would ask whether this had not been the case? There might be different opinions. Some persons might

think that the trading company which had taken place among our merchants might lessen the prosperous scene; others might think that such circumstance would occur in the most flourishing state of a country. But was there any man who did not believe the United States enjoyed happiness and prosperity? That commerce and agriculture did not flourish; that the laws did not reign, and the country held out a pleasing and delightful prospect? He would ask, whether any person would deny that our government had brought about this situation of things? Would any man say, that if that government had not been established, or something like it, this happiness would have been enjoyed? He believed not. Mr. Harper then took up a view of the miserable state of this country before the establishment of the present government, and made a contrast between the two situations. If then, said he, these advantages have been really enjoyed, where is the impolicy of saying so? What implication is there in this against the measures of gentlemen, which, if they had been acted upon, might have produced though he was far from believing they would have done so) more happy effects? Was it calling upon them to contradict their former opinions? No. They see the happiness exist, and whence did it arise but from government? He believed the gentlemen would join them in saying they concurred in these sentiments; and if so, where was the propriety of refusing to agree to this clause? He hoped they would reconsider the matter, and that by dividing the question, the clause moved to be struck out might be retained.

Mr. Sitgreaves said, he felt himself perfectly indifferent as to any division of the question, because his mind was prepared to give an unequivocal vote to every sentiment contained in the answer reported. He did not in any degree doubt the wisdom and firmness of the administration of the government; in the language of the answer, he entertained "a grateful conviction that the wise, firm, and patriotic administration of the President, had been signally conducive to the success of the present form of government." This, he said, was not only his sentiment—it was the sentiment of America. Such a sentiment was the only reward which could be given to labors like those of the president; that though they ought not to be withheld by that house, which every public body from one end of the continent to the other were pouring them forth. He saw no reason for being so very cautious of compliment, which would in effect convey reproach instead of praise. If these sentiments were universally felt, there could be no impropriety in their expressing them. But if that house, indeed, believed that the administration of the president had neither been wise, firm, nor patriotic, then they would concur with the motion for striking out. It had been insinuated, that the present situation of this country, with respect to its foreign relations, was owing to the want of firmness and wisdom in the administration. His opinion was directly the contrary, and he believed it was the opinion of America. This opinion was fully expressed by that house on a recent occasion, in the last session, and he did not believe it had seen any cause for changing its opinion. It was no reason for qualifying the expression relative to the prosperity of the country, because private credit had been in some degree deranged, as that derangement could not be attributed to any act of the government. He was sorry that such circumstances should have been mentioned to tarnish the bright appearance of the country. These circumstances were but like a speck upon the sun. Why were they not told of the fires which had happened at New-York and Savannah, as well as of the derangements of our merchants. Such trivial matters were not to be mentioned in a national view. If the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Giles) did not regret the resignation of the presi-

dent, he did not regret the resignation of the president, and he believed this regret was extremely natural and proper. He did not think it undignified. That gentleman had said the government would go on without him, and that there were many others capable of filling the presidential chair. This might be so; but did it follow that they should not regret the loss of a valuable public servant? Should we not regret him, said he, on account of the universal confidence placed in him? Confidence in the officers of government was valuable, he said, under every form; but particularly in a republican government; it was the chief principle from which it had derived its energy. Could this be denied? If not, certainly regret was natural, because this confidence would not be so great in his successor, though he might be possessed of equal talents and virtues.

Mr. Sitgreaves said he should not agree to the motion of the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. Harper) because it was substituting other words in place of those used, for no good reason whatever. Those words would not change or improve the sentiment or the phraseology, and there was, therefore, no utility in adopting them. Upon the whole, he believed the answer reported to be free from the charge of adulation. He believed there was not a sentiment in it which was not justified by fact. It was expressive of national regret at the departure of our chief magistrate from office, and of national gratitude for his services; sentiments which he believed it would not be agreeable to the American people to withhold from him.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15.

The order of the day being called for on the answer to the president's speech, the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Muhlenberg in the chair, when Mr. Giles's motion for striking out the last eight paragraphs of the answer being under consideration after some observations from Mr. Nicholas, Mr. Rutherford and Mr. Livingston, the motion was put and negatived.

Mr. Harper then renewed his motion for striking out the seven last paragraphs, for the purpose of introducing a paragraph containing nearly the same sentiments, which, after a few observations, was negative, 25 members only being in favor of it.

Mr. Parker renewed his motion for striking out the words "the freest and most enlightened in the world," which, after considerable debate, gave way to an amendment of Mr. Thatcher to have the expression read "the spectacle of a free and enlightened nation, offering," &c. which was carried by a considerable majority.

Mr. Livingston next moved an amendment in the sixth paragraph, to strike out from the word "tranquil" to "period," and to introduce in its stead "present period with that," so as to read "to compare the present period with that immediately antecedent," &c. which was carried 42 to 37.

Mr. Livingston next moved to strike out the words "wise, firm and patriotic administration," in the next paragraph, and to introduce in their stead the words "wisdom, firmness and patriotism," which, after much debate, was lost.

The committee then rose and reported the address with the amendments, which the house took up, and having gone through, Mr. Sitgreaves moved an amendment to strike out the words "while we participate" to "countrymen," and to insert after the words "to interest our attention, and" to the following effect, viz. "at the same time that we assure ourselves that your just confidence in the patriotism, self-respect, and fortitude of our countryman, will not, in any event, be disappointed, and that they will not, on any occasion, forget what is due to the character of our government and nation."

debate, at length defeated by the previous question, which was put in these words, "shall the main question now be put?" The yeas and nays were called for, and taken as follow:

YEAS.

Messrs. Ames, Bradbury, Coit, Craik, Davenport, Ege, A. Foster, D. Foster, Gilbert, Glen, Goodrich, Griswold, Harper, Hartley, Henderson, S. Lyman, Malbone, Read, Sewall, Sitgreaves, N. Smith, Isaac Smith, Wm. Smith, Swift, Thatcher, Thomas, Thompson, Van Allen, Wadsworth, Williams—30.

NAYS.

Messrs. Baily, Baldwin, Bard, Bryan, Blount, Christie, Claiborne, Clapton, Coles, Dent, Dearborn, Franklin, Freeman, Gallatin, Gillespie, Gilman, Greenup, Gregg, Grove, Harrison, Havens, Heath, Hindman, Holland, A. Jackson, G. Jackson, Kitchell, Livingston, Locke, W. Lyman, Maclay, Macon, Madison, Moore, Muhlenberg, Nicholas, Page, Parker, Patton, Richards, Sherborne, Israel Smith, R. Sprigg, Stradwick, Swanwick, Van Cortlandt, Varnum, Venable—49.

In the course of this debate, which was of considerable length, some very warm expressions took place between the speaker, Mr. W. Smith, and Mr. Harper, on the point of order. The latter gentleman appeared from the chair to the house, and was pronounced by the house to be out of order.

Mr. Blount moved to strike out the last sentence in the address, "for your country's sake," &c.—when the yeas and nays were taken as follow:

YEAS.

Messrs. Baily, Bard, Blount, Christie, Clapton, Coles, Gallatin, Giles, Greenup, Heath, Holland, A. Jackson, G. Jackson, Livingston, Locke, W. Lyman, Maclay, Macon, Moore, Parker, Patton, Swanwick, Varnum, Venable—24.

NAYS.

Messrs. Ames, Baldwin, Bradbury, Bryan, Claiborne, Coit, Craik, Davenport, Dearborn, Dent, Ege, A. Foster, D. Foster, Franklin, Freeman, Gilbert, Gillespie, Gilman, Glenn, Goodrich, Gregg, Griswold, Grove, Harper, Hartley, Havens, Henderson, Hindman, Kitchell, S. Lyman, Madison, Malbone, Muhlenberg, Nicholas, Page, Read, Richards, Sewall, Sherborne, Sitgreaves, N. Smith, Israel Smith, Isaac Smith, W. Smith, Sprigg, Stradwick, Swift, Thatcher, Thomas, Thompson, Van Cortlandt, Van Allen, Wadsworth, Williams—54.

On the question being about to be put on the answer as amended, Mr. Blount said he wished that the yeas and nays might be again taken, that posterity might see that he was not consenting to this address. The question was carried 67 to 12. The yeas were Messrs. Blount, Coles, Giles, Greenup, Holland, A. Jackson, Livingston, Locke, W. Lyman, Maclay, Macon, and Venable.

Messrs. Ames, Madison, and Sitgreaves, were appointed a committee to wait upon the President, to enquire when and where he would receive the answer to his address.

Adjourned.

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Alexandria, December 22.

REMARKS
ON
THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS
TO CONGRESS.

FROM THE PHILADELPHIA GAZETTE.

To attempt an illustration of a subject in itself so illuminated as the speech of our most excellent president to both houses of congress at the opening of the present session, were an arrogance which we must utterly disclaim; but to withhold the tribute of our gratitude and admiration to this last renewed and most affecting demonstration of paternal regard, consists not with our feelings, either as men, or as citizens. As an address to men, in their individual capacities, it is replete with every sentiment congenial to the finest feelings of humanity; as a recommendation to citizens in their collective character, it contains whatever it required to promote their dignity and happiness.

Where is the man, who considers the justice and benignity which is there disclosed, towards the rude and uncultivated aborigines of our country; and who does not bless the author of such sentiments—where is the inhabitant of our frontier settlements who does not find an assurance of protection and safety in the measures and opinions there inculcated?

Is it of importance to our character as a nation, and interesting to the welfare of our citizens, that our compacts with foreign States should be promptly and faithfully executed?—The best and most satisfactory answer to the enquiry, is found in the diligent and unremitting care with which the authorities devolved on the executive department have been fulfilled.—The distant settler on the Mississippi, beholds, with exultation that his happiness forms a consideration in the mind of the government, coequal with that of his fellow-citizens on the Atlantic, and both are convinced of the solicitude which watches over their respective interests.

Is there a seaman belonging to the United States, or a connexion of that valuable class of citizens, whose vows are not offered for the happiness of him, whose head and heart have been so much occupied with their concerns? The released captive and the protected freeman must equally bless him!

Does our extended and increasing commerce call for the protecting arm of a navy. The rudiments of such an institution are here suggested, in the manner best adapted to the situation of our country—and every merchant of the United States must perceive with pleasure, that his interests are among the peculiar cares of the Chief Magistrate.

Is the promotion of manufactures essential to the individual interests of our fellow-citizens, and to the independence of our country—and must not that particular description of citizens, and the whole community, confess the anxiety of a father in the earnest recommendation which is there given to their encouragement?

Is the agriculture of our country the basis of our public force, and the best source of private prosperity?—Who, then, among us but must rejoice in the precepts and example of this illustrious character, who is himself an illustration of the maxims he enjoins—and who, combining science with practice, is at once among the most useful, enlightened, and extensive farmers in the United States, or in the world? Let the rulers and yeomanry of America respectively exult in such an associate, and embrace with ardor the recommendations of such a friend!

Where is the citizen and father whose heart does not vibrate in unison with his paternal solicitude for the welfare

of the State, when he listens to liberal and regulated instruction as the source of all that is desirable to a nation and to individuals?

Where is the veteran whose bosom does not beat in applause responsive to the eulogium of Washington on military skill; and where is the patriot who does not confess his guardian care, when he enjoins the cultivation and perfection of this too necessary art, as essential to national safety and peace?

The liberal and disinterested attention of an officer, leaving public station, at once to the public service and to those who perform it, was never more happily exemplified than in recommending to legislative revision the compensations of the officers of government—their salaries are in every regard inadequate—and in no degree commensurate with the enhanced prices of every article of subsistence—and their direct tendency is to exclude virtue and talents, if unsupported by private fortune, from public station.

Where is the friend of France who does not feel with him a congenial anxiety for the maintenance of peace and harmony with our sister republic. And where is the American who does not feel a dignified security that the interests and character of this country are committed to a chief magistrate of perspicuous discernment, unceasing vigilance, and inflexible integrity—to a magistrate, whom every honest man must hail as the DEFENDER, GUARDIAN, and FATHER of his country.

ELECTION RETURNS

FOR
PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT.

	Adams.	Jeff.	Pinck.	Burr.
N. Hampshire,	6	0	6	0
Massachusetts,	16	0	13	0
Rhode-Island,*	4	0	0	0
Connecticut,	9	0	4	0
New-York,	12	0	12	0
Pennsylvania,	1	14	2	13
New-Jersey,	7	0	7	0
Delaware,	3	0	3	0
Maryland,	7	4	4	3
Virginia,	1	20	1	1
N. Carolina,	1	11	1	6
	67	49	53	28

* And 4 scattering votes.

A letter from South-Carolina states that Mr. Pinckney will undoubtedly have all the votes of the electors of that State, for Vice-President of the United States; but that the votes for President will be considerably divided between Messrs. Adams and Jefferson.

There has been another fire in Savannah, by which 25 buildings were destroyed—it happened on the 6th inst.

Joseph Clay, sen. John Habersham, and Thomas Young, Esqrs. have been appointed a committee, by the City Council of Savannah, to receive charitable donations.

A meeting has been called in Baltimore, to devise some method of taking subscriptions for the relief of the unfortunate sufferers in Savannah—as also to adopt a plan of guarding that town from incendiaries.

A most important discovery is announced in Philadelphia.—The President of the Bank of Pennsylvania (who we understand is a democrat or partizan of France) has drawn out of the Bank the enormous sum of one hundred and eleven thousand dollars, and appropriated it to the purpose of his private speculations—a violent proof of his patriotism! It is said also that J. S—k and B. M—n, two other patriots (and one of them President of the democratic society of Philadelphia) who lately lived in palaces on speculation, and were elected members of Congress, stopped payment for an immense amount, just after they were

your pretended "patriots." The steady freeholders of our country will save the republic; but were our government to depend alone on our cities, we should soon experience proofs of fraternity that would appal humanity. N. Y. MINERVA.

By Post.

PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER 14.

It appears from entries at the collector's office for this port, made in pursuance of the act of congress, of the last session, that in the quarter commencing on the 1st of July, and ending the 30th of September last, two hundred and ninety seamen have been registered; and that during the same period, twenty-two seamen were impressed, of which four were natives, nine whose citizenship was unknown or uncertain, two Swedes, one Dutchman, three Irishmen, and three foreigners, whose country is unknown, but in place of whom two Americans were returned by the vessel which impressed them. But one of these impressments was made in Europe; and one also from a vessel returning from Europe.

DECEMBER 17.

REPLY OF THE PRESIDENT,
TO THE ADDRESS OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES.

GENTLEMEN,

To a citizen, whose views were unambitious, who preferred the shade and tranquillity of private life, to the splendor and solicitude of elevated stations, and whom the voice of duty, and his country could alone have drawn from his chosen retreat; no reward for his public services can be so grateful as public approbation, accompanied by a consciousness that to render those services useful to that country, has been his single aim, and when this approbation is expressed by the representatives of a free and enlightened nation, the reward will admit of no addition. Receive, gentlemen, my sincere and affectionate thanks for this signal testimony that my services have been acceptable and useful to my country. The strong confidence of my fellow-citizens, while it animated all my actions, ensured that zealous co-operation which rendered those services successful. The virtue and wisdom of my successors, joined with the patriotism and intelligence of the citizens who compose the other branches of government, I firmly trust will lead them to the adoption of measures, which, by the beneficence of Providence, will give stability to our system of government, add to its success, and secure to ourselves and to posterity that liberty which is to all of us so dear.

While I acknowledge with pleasure, the sincere and uniform disposition of the House of Representatives to preserve our neutral relations inviolate, and with them deeply regret any degree of interruption of our good understanding with the French Republic, I beg you, gentlemen, to rest assured, that my endeavors will be earnest and unceasing by all honorable means to preserve peace, and to restore that harmony and affection which have heretofore so happily subsisted between our two nations, and with you. I cherish the pleasing hope that a mutual spirit of justice and moderation will crown those endeavors with success.

I shall cheerfully concur in the beneficial measures which your deliberations shall mature on the various subjects demanding your attention. And while directing your labors to advance the real interests of our country you receive its blessings; with perfect sincerity my individual wishes will be offered for your present and future felicity.

Go. WASHINGTON.

The destruction of property by fire, in the United States, within a few years past, has been astonishingly great. Albany, New-York, Bolton, Baltimore, Charleston, Savannah, one or two towns in North Carolina, Richmond, Lexington, in Kentucky, have been immense sufferers. To which may be added Quebec in the British dominions. The value of property destroyed in these towns, cannot be less than three millions of dollars, within three years.

Citizens of America, it becomes you to attend to these facts. "Has an enemy done this?" Or must we ascribe it all to accident?

SALEM, DECEMBER 9.

Capt. Elias Grant arrived since our last in 29 days from Martinique and St. Bartholomews. At Fort Royal, Capt. Grant saw Mr. Talbot, Agent of the United States for obtaining the release of American Seamen from on board British Vessels of War, who informed him, that he had procured the release of several, some of whom Capt. G. saw. Mr. Talbot appeared satisfied with the conduct of the British Commanders, as far as he had seen, in delivering them up, and declared that he had not made a single application that had been refused. A Stephen Croel, of Long-Island, State of New-York, who had been discharged from on board a vessel of war, came on board Capt. Grant at Fort-Royal, but was shortly after taken sick and died. Capt. G. saw his discharge, and certificate for pay while on board.

While Captain G. lay at Fort-Royal, several Carrels arrived with Prisoners from Gaudaloupe—One of the prisoners, with whom Captain G. conversed, said that of about 1900 that had been taken by the French, only 500 were then alive.—The rest died in the French Prisons in Gaudaloupe.

The Fleet, that we have had accounts of sailing from Martinique, had returned without performing any exploits whatever.

Anniversary of St. John.

A Procession of the Lodges No. 22, and 47, will proceed from the Court-house to the Episcopal Church, preceded by music, where a Charity Sermon will be delivered by the Rev. Brother Muir.

Several elegant pieces of music selected for the occasion, accompanied by instruments, under the direction of Brother Calender, who will sing an Ode to Charity, accompanied by a Lady.

All Brethren are desired to attend at the Lodge Room on Tuesday the 27th inst. at 9 o'clock, to join in the procession.

It is requested that all persons who are charitably disposed, will attend at the Church, as the money collected will be distributed to the poor without discrimination.

December 22.

For Sale.

A Tract of Land containing 2500 acres, lying immediately on the river Potomac, near Coan river in the county of Northumberland, Virginia. 1600 acres of which are the most valuable kind of low grounds on this river, between 300 and 400 acres heavily timbered, the whole perfectly level, the remainder is very high land, and exceedingly productive. The soil of this part is equal to any in the State in the cultivation of corn, wheat, tobacco, timothy, and small grain of all kinds. On this tract is a large commodious two story brick mansion house and out offices, a large brick stable, a valuable barn, corn house, and many other out houses, all in good repair. The orchard and garden contains a variety of valuable fruit trees, and the waters abound with fish and oysters. It is situated about a day's ride from Richmond, Alexandria, or Norfolk. For terms apply to the subscriber, who will take one half of the purchase money in approved western lands.

PRESLEY THORNTON.

Northumberland House,

Virginia, Dec. 22.

I WILL take one or two young gentlemen of good disposition, and respectable connexions, as students of medicine.

JAMES CRAIK.

December 22.

29117

to Hire,
Twenty likely negro fellows at a generous price will apply to
NICHOLAS VOSS.
JAMES M. M'REA.
Dec. 15.

BANK BONDS
AT THIS OFFICE.

VENUE

ON TUESDAY and FRIDAY, in every week, at 10 o'clock in the morning, will be exposed for sale at the Vendue Store (corner of Prince and Water streets) A VARIETY OF WET & DRY GOODS.

Of which the particulars will be given previous to the sale. The VENDUE MASTERS will always keep the Store open for the reception of GOODS, and selling of such articles therein between the times of public sales as may be on limitation. They likewise offer their services in transacting any kind of Commission Business.

MARSTELLER & SONS.

April 5th, 1796.

PUBLIC SALES.

On Friday next at 10 o'clock, will be peremptorily sold at the Vendue Store, About three hundred pounds worth of DRY GOODS,

On a credit of 6 and 9 months, for negotiable notes, with approved endorsers, Consisting of

Cloths, mullins, sackings, calicoes, fluffs, linens, tickings, gloves, thread, &c. &c.

MARSTELLER & SONS.

Dec. 17.

FOR SALE,

On the third of January,

That valuable Brick House

and Lot, situate on Prince Street, near the Warehouses of Shreve and Lawrafon, and now occupied by Thomas Steele, 17½ feet front, 44 feet 4 inches deep. The above property will be sold in fee simple, clear of all encumbrances. Terms of sale ½ cash, ½ in 9 months, and the remaining ½ in 18 months. Approved negotiable notes, or a mortgage on the property, will be required.

MARSTELLER & SONS.

December 10.

JOHN PITTMAN, GOLD-SMITH & WATCH-MAKER

RESPECTFULLY informs the inhabitants of Alexandria, and the public in general, that he has begun business in this town, in Fairfax near Prince Street, and opposite Mr. James Kennedy's Druggist Store, where he intends paying strict attention to the commands he may be favored with in his line of business.

Ladies and Gentlemen who with their miniatures set, may rely on having them done on as reasonable terms as could be done elsewhere, and in the most approved manner. Also, Mourning and Fancy Lockets, Rings, &c. done with hair devices, or hair plated, as may be required, and no pay will be required for any article not properly executed.

He has for sale a few warranted watches; chains, seals, keys, trinkets, &c. also, some ready made gold and silver work.

An apprentice under 14 years of age, of good qualities and connections, would be taken on good terms to the above business.

December 20.

Great Falls of Potomac.

THE President and Board of Directors having ordered me to considerably increase the number of their hands, I am ready to engage from 50 to 100 servants on liberal terms for one year.

Any person disposed to send 50 hands, may send with their people an overseer, who will have from 20 to 30 dollars per month, and have the sole direction and charge of the people he brings.

The people will be allowed good rations, a blanket, and medical assistance, should any ailment take place, a doctor being engaged for the use of the workers. I will also give good allowance to a woman who will cook for each squad. Application to be made to me personally or by letter directed thus, CHRISTOPHER MYERS, Engineer to the Potomac Comp.

MATILDA,

Via Alexandria.

December 20.

LISBON WINE

In Pipes, Hogheads and Quarter-casks, For Sale by

KEMP HURST and CO.

Nov. 10.

Cheap Goods.

Will absolutely be sold at a very low price AND CHARGES for cash only, under the direction of Mr. William Hickman, opposite to M. Knight's Tavern, from

6 to 7000 pounds worth

of Goods—a large proportion of which are just arrived from England, and now opening. They consist of broad cloths of every denomination, from 3s. to 17/6 sterl. per yard, calicoes from 3/9 to 6s. sterl. plain and forest cloths from 1s. to 4s. per yard, plain and striped coatings, kerseys and half-bucks, a large assortment of flannels and bazes of every usual colour, from 3s. to 9s. sterl. per piece, wildbore, bombazets, durans, calmancoes, and moreens, rugs, Irish linens, sheetings, cotton and linen checks, brown Silesia's, striped cotton and linen, twill'd velvets and velverets, handsome Brunswick and fancy cords, corduroys, queen's cord, thicksetts, fullians, and other Manchellry, a large assortment of printed cottons, callicoes, and chintzes, printed linen and cotton, and check linen and silk handkerchiefs, women's, men's, girls, and boys' cotton, worsted, and yarn hose, women's and men's lamb, kid, beaver, Venetian, and silk glove sand mitts, silk cloaks, luteatings, modes, satins, and vellums, bell white chapel needles, pins, tapes, laces, sereting, worsted and cotton bindings, cotton cord and tassels, fringe, shirt buttons, paddle boards, women's and men's fine fur bats, gilt plated and common metal coat and vest buttons, sewing silk and twill, ivory and bone handle table and carving knives and forks, a large assortment of bridle bits and stirrup irons, firingle, girth, and bridle buckles, saddle flaps and plates, iron rim and flock locks, HL hinges and thumb latches, hat looping and lining of all prices, large scale beams, chains and hooks of the best quality, brass counter scales, London Porter in bottles by the cask or dozen, and a variety of other articles too tedious to enumerate.

Purchasers of every description will be accommodated, and will find their interest in calling, as we are determined to close the sales if possible in five or six weeks.

JOSIAH WATSON, JESSE SIMMS.

Carne & Slade

Have just imported, by the Juno and Union from Bristol, and the Virginia, from Liverpool,

A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF HARDWARE

AND

IRONMONGERY,

Which they offer for sale, wholesale and retail, at their store in Fairfax Street, adjoining Ricketts and Newton's new buildings.

The following articles are a part:

Sad Irons, Anvils, Shears, iron, bolt iron, tin plate, frying pans, smiths hammers and sledges, scale beams from 14 inches to a size that will weigh a ton; general assortment of nails, tacks and brads; do. of all other building materials, brass work for cabinet makers, brass patent and other cocks, brick-layers' trowels, spring rat traps, curry combs and horse brushes, a variety of rules, iron and brass candle sticks, coffee mills, chamber and kitchen bellows, fleayards, fire-irons, iron wire, waggon traces, sifters, wood and bed screws, bores, spades, pins, cast iron weights, with a variety of other articles.

They have likewise for sale, Bar iron, waggon boxes, nail rods, and blistered steel, Liverpool and St. Ubes' Salt, shop and packing thread and files.

N. B. They expect daily a general assortment of Cutlery.—Cash given for Fleashead. Nov. 24.

WASHINGTON,

Commissioner's Office,

Nov. 8, 1796.

THE Commissioners are desirous of contracting for the delivery of the following articles in the city of Washington, to wit: One million of good place bricks; six thousand bushels of unshacked lime; 150 barrels of pork; 40 barrels of beef, and 1500 bushels of bolted or sifted Indian Meal.

On bond, with approved security being given by the several contractors for the due performance of their respective contracts, the necessary advances will be made. Proposals for said contracts, forwarded to the Commissioner's Office, at any time before the second Monday in December next will be attended to.

By Order.

THOS. MUNROE, CLK.

TO BE SOLD,

At Public Vendue, on Thursday the 6th of April next, at Dougherty's tavern, in the town of Winchester, in Virginia, the following Lands, situate in the said State, viz.

No. 1.—430 Acres

Of excellent land, on the waters of Back-creek, in Frederick county, on the great road leading to the South Branch, about 10 miles from Winchester, 100 acres of which is rich bottom, a fine stream running through it, with several springs, the trees in the bottom are chiefly sugar maple, black walnut, hickory and locust. There are a log dwelling and out-houses, some meadow made, and about 40 acres of upland cleared. O his tract there is a good mill-seat, where an under-shot mill might be erected.

No. 2.—800 Acres,

Situate in Hampshire county, on the north branch of the Potomac, and on a branch called Cabin Run, about 8 miles from Fort Cumberland. On this tract is a large quantity of rich bottom, fit for meadow or the culture of hemp. The upland remarkable good, being chiefly timbered with walnut and hickory. The above tract is in two surveys of 400 each.

No. 3.—200 Acres,

Situate in Franklin county, about ten miles from Winchester. On this tract there is a dwelling house, and part of the land is cleared, the remainder is finely timbered.

No. 4.—A Lot of Ground,

In the town of Woodstock, Shenandoah county, whereon is erected a two story house, and other improvements, and a ten acre lot for the convenience of said town lot.

No. 5.—250 Acres,

Situate about two miles from Woodstock. Part of this tract is in cultivation, is finely timbered, and a good quantity of meadow may be made.

No. 6.—400 Acres,

Situate in Hampshire county, on George Anderson's run, on a branch of the Calapachom. The tract is finely timbered, there is good bottom land, which might be easily converted into meadow.

No. 7.—One Moiety of 5000 Acres,

Lying on the Waters of Hughes's river, in Harrison county. This was purchased at one quarter of a dollar per acre cash above 8 years ago.

No. 8.—41,900 Acres,

Lying in the counties of Wythe, Washington, and Grayson, (the greater part in Wythe,) on the waters of Cripple creek and Fox creek, branches of New river, and on the south side of Holstein.

No. 9.—10,000 Acres,

Lying in the county of Hardy, on the waters of Great Cacapon and North River.

The terms of payment will be one third part of the purchase money to be paid in hand at the time of executing the deed or deeds of conveyance, the remaining two thirds to be paid in equal instalments, at 12, 18, and 24 months thereafter, securing those payments by mortgaging the premises.

Should any person wish to purchase at private sale, application may be made to John Holker, Esq. near Winchester; David Holmes, Esq. of Winchester; or by letters (post paid), to the subscriber in Philadelphia, being the owner of said lands, who will personally attend the sale on the day above mentioned.

GEORGE MEADE.

Philadelphia, 29th Oct. 1796.

Queen's and Glass Ware.

ADAM S. SWOOPE,

THREE Do. is above Col. Hooper's, in Prince Street, has just received per the snow Virginia, Capt. M. Butts, and the snow Catharine, Capt. Cazneau, from Liverpool.

A general assortment of

Queen's and Glass Ware,

Single and double flint, plain, cut ground, and handsomely cyphered with different letters, which will be sold low for cash.

Queen's ware by the crate.

October 27.

ecptf

JOHN G. LADD,

HAS JUST RECEIVED,

A few casks fresh Ma-

laga Raisins,

40 barrels prime Boston Beef,

4 7½ Inch Cables,

For sale, at his Warehouse on Prince Street.

November 25.

William Groverman

Has for sale at his Warehouse in King Street next door above Mr. Thomas Patton, An Assortment of

German Linens,

Consisting of Osnaburghs of different quality, brown roles and hempen, Tucklenburghs, 4 flaxen, 5 4 white dowlas, 2 and 3 tubed bags. Also, Russia Sheetings, bed ticks, 01 cloths, Men's and Women's tulleed stockings and gloves, a quantity of window glass, 8 by 10, and 10 by 12, hollow glass affixed, cases with bottles of all sizes, looking glasses, snuff boxes, and coffee mlls. He expects daily some of the best Holland Goods. Likewise, he offers for sale,

His Plantation in Freder-

rick County, within 11 miles of Winchester, containing 250 acres, 40 of it is in meadow, the whole well watered. Also, one House and Lot in Winchester, situate in Market Street, and 800 acres of Land in the county of Hampshire.

November 26.

JOSIAH CORYTON,

CLOCK & WATCH-MAKER.

TAKES the earliest opportunity of informing his friends and the public in general that he has removed his shop from Fairfax Street to Royal Street, two doors north of Prince Street, where he hopes for a continuance of those favours already so liberally bestowed.

Just opened, and for Sale, a neat assortment of FANCY ARTICLES; such as Ladies' Steel and gilt Watch-Chains, Gentlemen's do. Seals, Keys, Necklaces, Fancy Watch-Strings, Lockets, Pins, &c. N. B. Gilding, Silvering and Lacquering neatly executed.

The Store, formerly occupied by him is to let.

Alexandria, September 30, 1795.

HARDWARE.

JOSEPH SAUL, at his Store on the South side of King-Street, five doors above Fairfax-Street, has opened, (which he will sell wholesale and retail) a complete assortment of all kinds of Hardware, particularly a general assortment of all kinds of House and Ship Carpenters', Joiners', Cabinet-makers', Coopers', Turners', Silversmiths', Tinner's', Blacksmiths', Shoemakers', and other tools. Also, Locks, Hinges, Bolts, and other materials for building, with a variety of articles suitable for country and retail stores.

He has also on hand,

Old Sherry Wine of a very superior quality, which he will dispose of by the quantity or quarter cask.

FOR SALE,

EIGHT Hundred and fifty eight acres of Land, situate in Loudoun County within two miles of Middleburgh. This tract is at present divided into five tenements, on which are comfortable farm houses, and the land is well calculated for farming. The terms of sale may be known upon application to Major Powell, in Middleburgh, or to the subscriber. JOHN D. ORR. Sept. 8.

Fifteen Dollars Reward

STRAYED from Ravensworth, on Tuesday the 25th of October, a dark coloured BAY HORSE, about 8 years old, rough shod all round, his shoes with fleck toes, no white spots or brand about him, as I recollect, sway back'd and has been accustomed to the waggon, but rides well, whoever will return the said horse to me in Alexandria, (or in my absence) to Capt. Jesse Taylor, shall receive the above reward.

AUG. J. SMITH.

N. B. As he was bred in the upper part of Carolina, he is probably making that way.

November 1.

Wanted to Purchase,

Or hire for the ensuing year,

One Negro Man, and

one Boy of 14 to 16 years of age, who have been brought up in the country.

Dec. 3.

J. B. NICKOLLS.

Blank Manifests for sale at this Office.